

Bow Wave – February 2021

Your monthly dose of AYC news



Mark Your Calendars

- **No upcoming Events**



Nick Pitt

Commodore

Greetings to everyone in the AYC family of friends! As many of you are aware, this is my second run as commodore of our club (I was commodore from 2009 to 2012). I can tell you that barely two months into this term more has happened than in the three full seasons last time. We have been courted and appear to have successfully repelled our neighbors in a bid to take over our swing mooring field (although, it is too early to say this with finality); and we have been broken into twice by an intruder accessing the Toronto Hydro meter gate. We have been forced to fully lock down the club and sharply restrict member access to the facility because of the pandemic; and we are looking at the potential of a second season in a row without social events and with restrictions on the number of members in the facility at one time, and no visitation rights to most other clubs. And all of this is confronting a new board with a new commodore, vice commodore, rear commodore, treasurer, secretary, social director, and membership director – in short, an entirely new board with the exception of Phil Dunk at House, Lee Silver at communications and Gareth Clemo at fleet captain.

Phew. I'm exhausted just reading that paragraph. The good news that we are a tough, resourceful, and ingenious bunch. Your new board is proving able at confronting these challenges and, as always, the membership at large is our greatest asset when dealing with any issue.

I'd like to do a longer and more detailed Bow Wave piece but at this moment my hands are full. I will leave you with this picture that I took at haul out in 2019 (pre pandemic). To me it perfectly captures the spirit of the Alexandra Yacht Club:



(From left to right: senior members Dan Peel, Gerry Kowalchuk, Greg Shears and Alex Farkas.)

Bjarne Pedersen

Vice Commodore

Hello AYC friends,
These are “Interesting Times”. Lock Downs, Restrictions, State of Emergency, Stay at Home, Social/Physical Distancing, On and on it goes.

This month was Interesting as well. As you all know we have had a break in to the AYC club grounds. The thief has entered the grounds with a large bolt cutter. Cutting Locks and Chain to gain access. The only items we can identify as missing are two fuel cans. Police and Insurance have been notified. Police have visited the yard twice to gather and record information. Our Security Video Camera has captured the trespasser, which has given us clues in determining the time on site, and some physical characteristics, however the quality of the video is not good enough to determine more than that.

I ask all members to please remove from the AYC grounds all Fuel, Gas, tanks, Accelerants, Lighters, as well as any Valuables. (Outboard motors, Bikes, Etc.).

The first Item on list as Vice Commodore was to Audit the Exterior Lighting. I am a Certified Lighting Designer. With consideration to security cameras I propose to develop a lighting plan that is follows the best practices of the IES, as well as Dark Sky friendly, and limiting Glare and Light Trespass to our Neighbors.



Note. Garbage Collection has been put off until further notice (March).

Note. As per requests by the previous Commodore and the Present Commodore, please notify the BOD if you plan on entering the AYC yard.

905-330-1110,
bpedersen@ald.ca

We need to know who is coming and going.
“May you live in interesting times”.

Bjarne – Vice Commodore



Geoff Gurr

Rear Commodore

Hello fellow AYC members! I hope this edition of the Bow Wave finds you in good spirits during these less than favourable life circumstances. I am now your serving Rear Commodore/Dock master here at AYC. Many will know me already, some of the newer members may not. At 36 years old, I suppose I'm one of the younger senior members at the club. I sail a silver Contessa 26, I used to race, yet these days I mostly just take it easy while on the water. If you have any questions or concerns for me as your dockmaster, I encourage you to email me: rearcommodore@ayc.ca and I will be able to sort out your requests from there.

I look forward to accomplishing a few tasks laid out before me by previous boards, plus some fresh tasks that I want to get finished up. Some might think that virus life will slow things down, although, now that the 2020 Board painstakingly put in all the effort to establish the protocol, this gives me time to focus on the docks.

- Dock assignments have slightly changed for the 2021 year. Please note to those that got assigned a move, I do not move your slip just because I felt like it. I assign your dockage based on these factors, in this order: First is mobility or disability, then boat size and/or displacement, then seniority. If you are not happy with your position on the dock system, please send me an email explaining why, and I will consider your reasoning.

Over the past few weeks, I have completely digitized the dock plan into a

full-size 3D representation, and entered all of the boats according to their actual size, directly onto their respective slips. I plan to reveal this major effort to you all during the 2021 spring AGM.

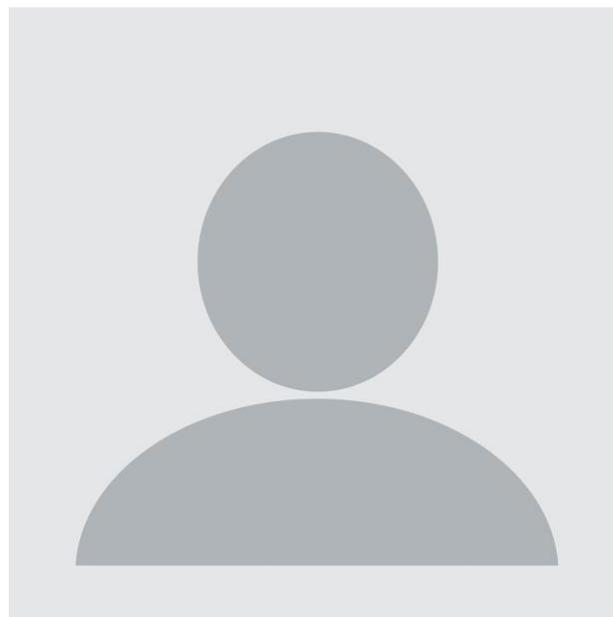
I hope the 2021 boating life will take a turn for the better. Enjoy your zoom calls!

Geoff Gurr
Rear Commodore

Wesley Spencer

Social Director

Nothing to report





Scott Durdle

Treasurer

Thank you all to those members - Life, Senior and Associate - that have paid their Summer 2021 Membership and Summer Mooring invoices! If you have by chance forgotten or misplaced your invoice, please make payment or reach out to me as early as possible via Treasurer@AYC.ca. Your Board members are busy preparing their respective budgets and we look forward to sharing our plans at the Spring General Meeting. Lastly, a very grateful thank you to Keith Whalen for his past and ongoing efforts in making the role of Treasurer painless. Looking forward to launch and seeing you all again soon!

Cheers, Scott

Phil Dunk

House Director

The best of the New Year to all the members of AYC. It's a new year and with it we have dragged a few issues from the old year. As members are aware the club is under the guidelines of both the City of Toronto and also the Province. What that means to club members is, the club house is in lockdown. While members have access to the yard, the club house is out of bounds. This means the club house is closed. The parking/boat yard is open to members. Please follow the guidelines. When we are given the green light to reopen, we will advise the members that they will have use of the clubhouse again. With the light at the end of the tunnel we hope that will be sooner than later.

Cheers & keep safe

Phil

Our outgoing board of directors wish to pass on this note:

The cancelling of the Spring and Fall clean up also, the cancelling of planned work parties and social events that members would normally get work hours for participating. Because of the circumstances of last year, the executive had decided that it would cancel posting work hours. This means that there will be no penalty for short hours. Having said that, the board wishes to recognize several members that have contributed to the club with



their time. Members: Bill McLean, Bill Morris, Dave Gardner, Lochlin (Lockie) MacKay, Marcelo Lopez, Joe Vorstermans, Alison and George Kay, Keith Whalen, Sean Smith, Linda Allan, Gordon Young, Henry Kwan, Don Williams, Mike Ball, Wesley Spencer and Keith Story. To these people we owe our thanks.



Alison Honey Woods

Membership Director

A Go Fund Me campaign has been started for Ryan Smith's widow, Kim, and their 2 daughters. Members wishing to give support can do so by visiting the following link:

<https://gofund.me/62c840e0>

Though we are in the depths of winter, summer is on boaters' minds. I have received a number of membership queries and applications from a wide variety of prospects. The applications are posted in the members section of ayc.ca - please log in to view the list of Active Membership Applications.

Hope you all find ways to stay healthy and sane and hopefully I'll see you all in the summer!

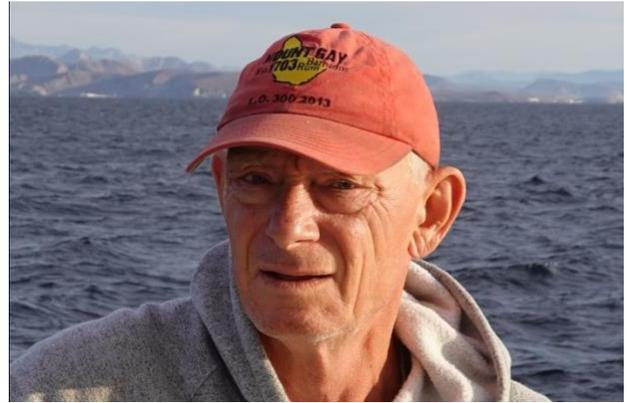
Bill Morris

Secretary

As in previous years, our next General Members meeting will be held on the third Wednesday of April. Please mark your calendars for April 21st at 6:30. Given current COVID 19 restrictions, we are proceeding on the assumption the meeting will need to be held electronically, and are making plans accordingly. Please notify me as soon as possible if you have business for the meeting agenda. A General Members meeting package will be circulated in early April.

Otherwise, board minutes and correspondence are up-to-date.

Bill Morris





Lee Silver

Communications Director

Happy New Year everyone. Sorry for the delay in sending out this newsletter. We decided that a monthly newsletter is not necessary so I will be sending one every few months when the board has something to report.

Gareth Clemo

Fleet Captain

Boating Courses

Pleasure Boat Operator Card

I'm sure everyone of our member has a Pleasure Craft Operators Card. It's the law to have one to operate a boat with a motor in Canada, regardless of age. Just in case, I've provided some links to programs you can do to get one. In my opinion, the Power Squadron course is the best as it actually teaches you something.

[CPS | Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons is a non-profit organization and the foremost educational boating authority in Canada \(cps-ecp.ca\)](http://www.cps-ecp.ca)

https://www.boaterexam.com/canada/?gclid=EA1a1QobChMljPOGj8e_7gIVKYBQBh014QE5EAAYASAAEgLgufD_BwE

https://www.boat-ed.com/canada/?campaignid=197840659&adgroupid=24776575819&keyword=pleasure%20craft%20operator%20card&gclid=EA1a1QobChMljPOGj8e_7gIVKYBQBh014QE5EAAYAiAAEgIBHPD_BwE

If you google Pleasure Craft Operators Card, I'm sure you can find many other organizations offering ways to get your card



Toronto Harbour License

Ports Toronto has jurisdiction over the area below. You are required to have a Powered Vessel Operator's Permit issued by Ports Toronto in addition to your Pleasure Craft Operator Card to operate a boat with a motor in this area. There is some debate on whether this is really required or not but according to Ports Toronto it is. Personally, I think it's a good idea to do the course even if you choose not to renew. There are a number of rules in this area in addition to federal boating regulations that the course make you aware of.

Powered Vessel Operator's Permit |
Ports Toronto



Restricted Operator's Certificate (Maritime)

Federal regulations require you to have an operator's certificate to use a VHF radio on your boat. I've provided a link to a course you can take in case you don't have a certificate.

https://www.cps-ecp.ca/contact/squadron-locations/course-catalog/course-details/?cps-course=maritime_radio&cps-

[course-id=88&gclid=EAlaIQobChMIhezguca_7gIVU4BQBh0lrAGLEAAYASAAEgJWWfD_BwE](https://www.cps-ecp.ca/course-id=88&gclid=EAlaIQobChMIhezguca_7gIVU4BQBh0lrAGLEAAYASAAEgJWWfD_BwE)

Many yacht clubs put on training sessions during the year. I would suggest you google Restricted Operator's Certificate, if you want to find other courses.

Ontario Sailing

As a club, we are members of Ontario Sailing which gives us access to all they have to offer. A link to their website is below.

[Ontario Sailing I](#)

One of our members sent me a link to a course that he thought would be of interest to our membership. I've provided a link below.

[Maneuvering Under Sail \(Tight Quarters, Docking & Anchoring\) Tickets, Tue, 2 Feb 2021 at 6:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

In Other News

GoFundMe for Ryan Smith

A Go Fund Me campaign has been started for Ryan Smith's widow, Kim, and their 2 daughters.

Members wishing to give support can do so by visiting the following link:

<https://gofund.me/62c840e0>

Message from the Brioux

Hello All, the Brioux family has recently received some very sad news. On the evening of Jan 10th around 7:00PM there was a terrible house fire in Kemptville, ON. Four people were lost in the fire.

Amongst the deceased was Bob and Gina Juneau, the sister and brother in-law of Ray Brioux a long-time senior member of the club.

The home was a beautiful three storey log home built by Bob in the early 80's. It was the home where Bob and Gina raised their four children who our hearts go out to for this awful loss.

Message from Rob Roncarelli

Safety Concerns.

With our clubhouse and facilities locked down, there is no access to our several First Aid kits. Not that many people are working on their boats for the near future, but please keep that in mind if you are planning any work that could lead to injury. Keeping a First Kit available outside the clubhouse is not practical. Fire Extinguishers are available outside the clubhouse and throughout the yard.

And . . . if you do visit to check on your boat, please pause a moment when leaving and ensure that the gate closes completely behind you before you drive off.

Thanks - Robi
Robi Roncarelli
L7 - 1365 Bayview Ave
Toronto, ON, Canada M4G 3A5
robipixel@bell.net - (416) 822-3495

Message from Don Williams

The world has changed, as you (may) well know. So, we must change with it, especially when it comes to 'cruising' at the AYC. We had a great cruising season planned for last season but were only able to go on a couple of these planned trips and since 'we' (the AYC) were 'not' welcoming inbound cruisers/visitors we 'weren't' welcome anywhere either – but why let that stop us?! (Hint – anchors and semi-valid excuses.) Those that contacted me were able to plan accordingly – do not be left out this coming season! If you can isolate beforehand then you are welcome to join the cruise.

We were able to cross our fair lake (actually, it is an 'inland sea' – too big to be a lake) this season and to Bluffer's Park. We had exceptional weather on both trips, although a bit windy – winds exceeding 24 knots on most legs – but this made our trips quick, exciting, and wet – mostly from spilling our 'refreshing beverages' battling the massive waves that we had to contend with.

We found it best to come in (wherever) later in the afternoon when pretty much everyone had already left, not that there were too many 'there' to be begin with, and if we ran into anyone, a hat, sunglasses and 'the mask' was all that was needed to be welcomed (and unrecognizable) plus 'did' pick a dock as far away from the clubhouse (or anyone) as possible. If questioned, as once we were, a good excuse was all that was needed – excessive wind – which was factual,

engine/boat issues – which, for us, was probable, or simply 'lost' – which was usually the 'real' reason. Ha! Also, bring 'hull-coloured' duct tape to cover your 'home port' and 'boat name' and keep your club burgee 'stowed.' What? You do not have a club burgee??!! Shame! Get one and fly it proudly (unless cruising with us of course.)

Well, back to 'now.' We, again, plan to 'skip the light fandango' and head to destinations unknown (even to us) in a semi-planned and clandestine way. One that we plan to do is to the Thousand Islands and plan to leave the AYC to head east around the last week of July to take advantage of the warmer waters – swimming or more correctly, a 'Lake Ontario bath!' Bring your floating cleaner and then you 'can' drop the soap!

So, if you have got 'itchy' sea legs (and who does not after the C19 cards that we were dealt) and want to join us (from a safe distance of course) then send me an email where/when you want to (pretend) to go so we can 'get it sorted.' There is nothing so good as 'light' at the end of the tunnel and something to plan and look forward to – a adventurous and memorable and fun AYC cruise!

Don Williams - AYC Cruise
Captain cruisecaptain@ayc.ca